

Appl. No. 10/710,175
Amdt. dated November 25, 2005
Reply to Office action of August 26, 2005

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

1. Amendments to the claims

5 Claim 1 is amended to include the limitation recited in claim 6, and claim 7 is amended to include the limitation recited in claim 13. Claims 2-6 & 8-13 are cancelled without disclaimer.

10 Claims 14 - 32 are new. Claims 14-19 & 25-27 are fully supported by specification paragraph [0018]. Claims 20-24 & 28-32 include limitations recited in original claims 2-6.

15 No new matter is introduced by these amendments. Consideration of all amendments is respectfully requested.

2. Claim rejections – 35 U.S.C. 102 (b) and 35 U.S.C. 103(a)

20 Claims 1, 4-5, 7 and 10-12 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Kameya. Claims 2-3 and 8-9 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kameya. Claims 6 and 13 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kameya in view of Park.

Response

25 Claims 1 and 7 are both amended to include the limitation “the variable capacitor being a P+/N well junction voltage-controlled capacitor”. As stated in this office action by the examiner, Park discloses a p+/n-well junction voltage controllable capacitor.

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However, according to Park's teachings, the p+/n-well junction capacitance is used to form the capacitance required for actuating the oscillation in the LC resonator (col. 6, lines 53-59). In other words, Park fails to teach or suggest utilizing the p+/n-well junction capacitance to adjust the phase delay between an input signal and an output signal. Since
5 the problem to be solved by Park's teachings is different from that mentioned in Kameya's disclosure, there is no motivation to combine Park's teachings with Kameya's teachings to produce the claimed feature "the variable capacitor being a P+/N well junction voltage-controlled capacitor". Therefore, it is not obvious to one of ordinary skill in this art to combine teachings of the prior art. Applicants believe that the amended
10 claims 1 and 7 have overcome the rejections under 35 U.S.C. 103(a). Consideration of the amended claims 1 and 7 is respectfully requested.

3. New claims

Claims 14 and 25

New claim 14 is created by amending original claim 1 to include the limitations that
15 the apparatus receives a first input signal and a second input signal, and further comprises a second buffer, a second variable capacitor, and a second DAC for adjusting the phase difference between the first and second input signals. This limitation is fully disclosed in specification paragraph [0018]. Kameya fails to teach or anticipate a second line of components, and further fails to teach or anticipate utilizing the apparatus for
20 adjusting the phase difference between two input signals. In the prior art of Kameya, the limiting word 'a' is used to describe each component, and possible connection to other components is not detailed. Furthermore, the second control voltage claimed by Kameya differs from the second control voltage disclosed in the present invention, as the second control voltage of the present invention corresponds to a second digital value
25 representative of a phase delay. The second control voltage in the prior art of Kameya is for changing the impedance of the electronic impedance varying means in response to a first control voltage. In the present invention, the second control voltage directly changes the phase delay of the second input signal. In short, the above-mentioned amendments are

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neither disclosed nor anticipated by the prior art of Kameya. Similarly, as to the new claim 25, the claimed features are neither disclosed nor anticipated by the prior art of Kameya. Applicants therefore believe new claims 14 and 25 have been placed in a position for allowance. Consideration of the newly entered claims 14 and 25 are
5 respectfully requested.

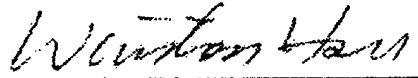
Claims 15-24 and 26-32

As new claims 15-24 and 26-32 are dependent on new claims 14 and 25 respectively and should be allowed if new claims 14 and 25 are found allowable, applicants believe newly entered claims 15-24 and 26-32 have been placed in position for allowance.
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Applicants respectfully request that a timely Notice of Allowance be issued in this case.

Sincerely yours,

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